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General Assembly

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Committee on Conferences
Organizational session for 2016

Annotated provisional agenda for the organizational session for 2016

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda for the organizational session for 2016.
4. Organization of work for 2016:
   (a) Intersessional departures and related matters;
   (b) Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019.
5. Programme of work for 2016.
6. Adoption of the agenda and dates for the substantive session of 2016.
7. Other business.

Annotations

1. Opening of the session

2. Election of officers

Rule 103 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that committees other than Main Committees shall elect a Chair, one or more Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur. These officers shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, experience and personal competence. The Bureau of the Committee on Conferences comprises a Chair, three Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur.

At its organizational session for 1989, held on 1 March 1989, the Committee agreed in principle that thenceforth the chairmanship would rotate annually among the regional groups. At its organizational session for 2015 (536th meeting), held on 22 April 2015, the Committee agreed in principle that the Chair would undertake informal consultations with a view to determining the composition of the Bureau for

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2016 and that the Chair and the other members of the Bureau would continue in their capacities until the 2016 Bureau had been elected.

Documentation: Membership of the Committee on Conferences for 2016 (A/AC.172/2016/INF/1) (to be issued)

3. Adoption of the agenda for the organizational session for 2016

4. Organization of work for 2016

At its organizational session for 2015, the Committee adopted the agenda for its substantive session of 2015 and requested the Secretariat to submit to it at its organizational session for 2016 a provisional agenda for its substantive session of 2016.

(a) Intersessional departures and related matters

The Committee will consider requests for intersessional departures in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 46/190, in which the Assembly took note of the guidelines adopted by the Committee (A/46/32, para. 77), and in accordance with the decisions taken by the Committee at its 373rd meeting, on 26 August 1994, at its 379th meeting, on 23 March 1995, and at its substantive session of 1995.

In accordance with legislative mandates, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management will administer the programme of meetings as stated in the report of the Secretary-General on improving the performance of the Department (A/57/289, para. 15).

Moreover, meetings of the Committee may be required under the terms of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 35/10 A, by which the Assembly decided that all proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings made at sessions of the Assembly shall be reviewed by the Committee when administrative implications are being considered under the requirements of rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly.

(b) Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019

In accordance with regulation 4.8 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, the Committee may wish to review the proposed strategic framework once issued and to transmit its recommendations, if any, to the Chair of the Committee for Programme and Coordination.

Documentation: Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6 (Prog. 1)) (to be issued)

5. Programme of work for 2016

The terms of reference of the Committee are set forth in paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/222 B of 21 December 1988.

The annex to the present document contains a provisional agenda for the substantive session of 2016. The provisional agenda takes into account standing mandates from the Committee and the General Assembly, as well as information requested by the

Assembly in its resolution 70/9 of 13 November 2015 on the pattern of conferences. In the annotations to the provisional agenda the relevant paragraphs in the above resolution are referred to instead of being quoted in extenso.

The information requested by the General Assembly will be presented in a consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences. Statistical and other relevant data will be presented as information supplementary to the report.

6. Adoption of the agenda and dates for the substantive session of 2016

The Committee may wish to reconfirm 6 to 13 September 2016 as the dates for its substantive session.

7. Other business

Annex

Annotated provisional agenda for the substantive session of 2016

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Calendar of conferences and meetings:
   (a) Requests for exceptions to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243;
   (b) Adoption of the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2017;
   (c) Intersessional departures for 2016.
3. Meetings management/utilization of conference-servicing resources and facilities:
   (a) Meeting statistics of United Nations organs and consultations with/letters to bodies concerning utilization of conference-servicing resources;
   (b) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of bodies entitled to meet "as required";
   (c) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;
   (d) Utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;
   (e) Utilization of the conference centre at the Economic Commission for Africa.
4. Integrated global management.
5. Matters related to documentation and publications.
6. Matters related to translation and interpretation.
7. Organization of work.
8. Adoption of the report and proposed dates for the organizational and substantive sessions for 2017.

Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

2. Calendar of conferences and meetings

(a) Requests for exceptions to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243

The Secretariat will report on requests received pursuant to paragraph 15 of General Assembly resolution 47/202 A of 22 December 1992 and section I, paragraph 7, of Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985, for action by the Committee.

Documentation: Letter from the Chair of the Committee on Conferences to the President of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly (A/71/__)

(b) Adoption of the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2017

The draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2017 will be prepared pursuant to section I, paragraphs 2 and 3, of General Assembly resolution 70/9 of 13 November 2015 on the pattern of conferences.

Documentation: Calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for the biennium 2016-2017 (A/AC.172/2016/2) and draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2017 (A/AC.172/2016/L.2)

(c) Intersessional departures for 2016

The Secretariat will compile a list of requests for intersessional departures from the approved calendar of conferences and meetings for 2016, together with information on any action taken by the Committee.

3. Meetings management/utilization of conference-servicing resources and facilities

(a) Meeting statistics of United Nations organs and consultations with/letters to bodies concerning utilization of conference-servicing resources

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraphs 12 to 16, 29 and 30 of General Assembly resolution 70/9.

Documentation: Statistical data and analysis of the planned and actual utilization of conference-servicing resources allocated to a core sample of bodies at all four duty stations will be made available to the Committee as supplementary information. The Chair will report orally on consultations with bodies in New York and on written communications with bodies at other duty stations that have underutilized their conference-servicing resources.

(b) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of bodies entitled to meet "as required"

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 70/9.

(c) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraphs 19 and 20 of General Assembly resolution 70/9.

(d) Utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraph 23 of General Assembly resolution 70/9.

(e) Utilization of the conference centre at the Economic Commission for Africa

The status of this item will be considered by the Committee at its organizational session for 2016.

4. Integrated global management

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraphs 36 to 54 of General Assembly resolution 70/9.

5. Matters related to documentation and publications

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraphs 55 to 92 of General Assembly resolution 70/9.

6. Matters related to translation and interpretation

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraphs 93 to 122 of General Assembly resolution 70/9.

7. Organization of work

In section II.A, paragraph 20, of its resolution 57/283 B, the General Assembly encouraged the Committee to keep under continued review the procedures for the participation of observers in the work of the Committee.

8. Adoption of the report and proposed dates for the organizational and substantive sessions for 2017

The Committee will adopt its draft report for 2016 and the draft resolution on the pattern of conferences for recommendation to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session. The Committee will approve the dates proposed for its organizational and substantive sessions for 2017.